

Message Text

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TREASURY:RGORDON

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L:T:SNIELSEN

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IO:OIC:MAVIEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 200993

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO MEETING IN GENEVA, NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 3,

TO REVIEW APPLICATION OF FLORENCE AND BEIRUT

AGREEMENTS

REF: CL/2296

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PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING INFO TO DG, IN REPLY TO REF LETTER:
US DEL TO SUBJECT MEETING, WHILE NOT YET NAMED, WILL
DEFINITELY INCLUDE SPECIALISTS IN RELEVANT FIELDS. POSITION
THAT US ENVISAGES TAKING AT THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- A. ANY CHANGES THAT MAY BE CONTEMPLATED IN THE FLORENCE AGREEMENT MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH A PROTOCOL RATHER THAN BY REVISING THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT;
- B. AT PRESENT THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PERCEIVE A NEED FOR CHANGING, AMENDING, OR ADDING A PROTOCOL TO THE BEIRUT AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES SUGGESTS THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL IF COLLATERAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG EXPERTS COULD BE REACHED ON THE ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN RECENTLY INVENTED AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS;
- C. ANY Viable PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE FLORENCE AGREEMENT THAT WOULD ENHANCE THE FREE FLOW OF EDUCATIONAL,

SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL MATERIALS WILL BE WELCOMED BY THE UNITED STATES;

D. THE UNITED STATES SUGGESTS A REVIEW OF ANNEX D TO THE FLORENCE AGREEMENT, WHICH MAKES PROVISION FOR DUTY WAIVERS FOR IMPORTS OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS, AND RECOMMENDS INCLUSION OF AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION, REVIEW AND COMPARISON OF PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY SIGNATORY NATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS ANNEX. AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION, WE SUGGEST THAT PARTICIPANT COUNTRIES BE INVITED TO PREPARE A REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNEX D IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES;

E. THE UNITED STATES RECOMMENDS THAT THE MEETING SEEK WAYS TO IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES THAT PRESENTLY MAY HAMPER THE FREE FLOW OF ELIGIBLE ITEMS IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD. IT IS REALIZED THAT PROBLEMS AT BORDER CROSSINGS ARISING FROM MISUNDERSTANDING AND UNCLASSIFIED

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MISINFORMATION ABOUT ELIGIBLE MATERIAL CANNOT BE RESOLVED BY UNESCO, BUT ONLY BY THE CONTRACTING STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION WE BELIEVE THAT UNESCO HAS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN PUBLICIZING THE AGREEMENTS AND IN PROVIDING CONTRACTING STATES WHICH REQUEST SUGGESTIONS AS TO APPROPRIATE FORMS, REGULATIONS, AND IDENTIFYING MATERIALS;

F. FINALLY, THE UNITED STATES WILL RECOMMEND THAT
THE GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS CONSIDER MEANS TO ATTRACT MORE
COUNTRIES TO BECOME CONTRACTING PARTIES TO BOTH AGREEMENTS.
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